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CORPORATION OF WELLS



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(including the Report of the Public Health Inspector)

FOR THE YEAR

1962

CORPORATION OF WELLS

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

including the report of the Public Health Inspector
for the year ending 31st December 1962

Council Offices,
21 Chamberlain Street,
Wells,
Somerset.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Deryck E. Clare, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

H. C. Birch, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., M.I.P.H.E.

Committees dealing with Public Health Matters

General Purposes Committee
Housing Committee

Tel: (Office) Shepton Mallet 2237
(Residence) Wells 2643

Area Health Department,
U.D.C. Offices,
Market Square,
Shepton Mallet,
Somerset.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Wells City Council,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the Health of the City during 1962.

This Report is submitted in accordance with the Public Health Officers' Regulations 1959 and Ministry of Health Circular 1/63 of 30th January 1963, which define the scope of the Annual Report and allow the Medical Officer of Health to comment on any matter which he considers desirable in the interests of the Public Health of the City. In addition this year, a table is compiled of the vaccinations and inoculations carried out in the City during 1962, from figures kindly supplied by the County Health Department.

It will be seen that the vital statistics compare favourably with those of the County as a whole and England and Wales, and there was no Maternal Mortality.

At the beginning of the year there was some public alarm over the importation of smallpox cases into this country from Karachi, particularly into South Wales, but at the request of the County Medical Officer of Health "panic measures", such as mass vaccination sessions, were not initiated in the City. However the opportunity was taken to bring up to date the smallpox vaccination state of those at risk such as doctors, nurses and public health staff, to encourage vaccination of infants and children, and to revaccinate where necessary those travelling to affected areas.

The Report also deals with the work of the Public Health Inspector to whom I am most grateful for his contribution and continued support.

I would like to thank the other Officers of the Council for their assistance and co-operation, and the Chairman and Members of the General Purposes Committee for the courtesy they have shown me during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. Clare

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS 1962

Area of Borough (in acres)	1,336
Estimated population (mid-year 1962) ...	6,960
Number of inhabited houses	2,293
Rateable Value	£103,748
Product of a Penny Rate	£422

MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1962

(With comparative figures for Somerset and England & Wales where available)

BIRTHS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Legitimate	66	57	123				
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>				
Totals	<u>67</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>127</u>			8,700	840,557
Rate per 1,000 population (Area Births Comparability Factor 1.01).				18.25	18.4	17.33	18.0

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

(per cent of total live births)	3.15	5.03	6.6
---------------------------------	------	------	-----

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	1	-	1				
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>				
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>			153	15,480
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	7.8					17.28	18.1

TOTAL LIVE & STILL BIRTHS

68	60	128	8,853	856,037
----	----	-----	-------	---------

DEATHS

TOTAL DEATHS

(All ages)	53	65	118				
Rate per 1,000 population (Area Deaths Comparability Factor 0.60).	16.95	10.2	10.77	11.9			

INFANT DEATHS

(under 1 year)							
Legitimate	2	-	2			140	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>			<u>11</u>	
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>			<u>151</u>	17,978

<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>	<u>Wells</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
	<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	15.7		17.36	21.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	16.2		16.95	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-		25.11	
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES</u>				
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	15.7		13.22	15.1
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	15.7		11.26	
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
(Still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & still births)	23.4		28.13	30.8
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)</u>				
Number of deaths	-		3	300
Rate per 1,000 total live & still births	-		0.34	0.35

CAUSES OF DEATH

(As given by the Registrar-General) for 1962

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	8
Coronary Disease, angina	12	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1
Other Heart Disease	3	10
Other circulatory disease... ..	5	-
Pneumonia	-	3
Bronchitis	-	1
Other respiratory diseases.. ..	2	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	9	25
Suicide	1	-
Accidents other than motor vehicle	-	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	4
	<hr/>
Total	8

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SEC.47) & AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

No cases occurred requiring action under the provisions of these Acts, but an elderly woman living in borderline conditions was periodically visited and close touch was kept with her relatives and general practitioner.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

There were again no Food Poisoning Notifications during the year.

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1962

(Although as a general rule the figures are too small for much significance to be attached to them, nevertheless certain broad statements can be made).

Population

The Registrar-General estimated an increase of population for the City of 210 over that at mid-year 1961.

Births

Live births were some 25 more than in the previous year and exceeded deaths by 9. The birth rate was correspondingly greater than that of 1961 and when adjusted by the Registrar-General's Area Births Comparability Factor gives a Corrected Birth Rate of 18.4 - a figure higher than that of Somerset as a whole, or England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Live Births Rate was higher than in 1961 but still only half that of England and Wales.

The Still Births Rate was lower than in the previous year and less than half that of Somerset or England and Wales.

Deaths

There were some 13 more deaths in the City than in 1961, with a slightly increased Crude Death Rate (16.95) but when this latter is adjusted by the Area Deaths Comparability Factor, a Corrected Death Rate of 10.2 is obtained, which is better than that of Somerset and England and Wales.

Infant Mortality

Due to 2 infant deaths under 1 week the Infant Mortality, Neo-natal Mortality, Early Neo-natal Mortality and Perinatal Mortality rates were increased compared with 1961, but the Infant Mortality and Perinatal Mortality Rates were less than those of Somerset and England and Wales as a whole.

Maternal Mortality

It is pleasing to record that no women died in the City as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

Causes of Death

Cardio-Vascular Diseases - with an increase of 19 over 1961, these continued to be the greatest killers of the Wells population. Of these, Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System took first place with 21 deaths, followed by Coronary Disease with 19.

Cancer - deaths from this cause totalled 13 this year, and of these "Other Malignant and Lymphatic" types took leading place with 10 deaths.

Respiratory Diseases - there was one less death from this group than in 1961 (6).

Notifiable Diseases

The total number of these reported was almost half that in 1961, but it is unfortunate that 4 new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred, showing the need to make full use of Mass Radiography Services when in the area.

VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS

(Figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health)

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of children in the City who completed a full course of primary immunisation in year ended 31.12.62.

Children born in the years:-							Total
<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1953-57</u>	<u>1948-52</u>	
39	36	10	1	-	2	-	88

- (2) Reinforcing Injections
Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.62

-	-	-	-	-	58	2	60
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----

Children born in the years:-							Total
1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52	

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

(1)	<u>Primary Courses</u>	Number of children in the City who completed a full course of primary immunisation in year ended 31.12.62.							
		39	36	10	1	-	1	-	87
(2)	<u>Reinforcing Injections</u>	Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.62.							
		-	-	-	-	-	33	-	33

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children in the City who completed a primary course of Pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in year ended 31.12.62 :-

39	36	10	1	-	-	-	86
----	----	----	---	---	---	---	----

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

(1)	<u>Primary Courses</u>	Number of persons in the City who received a course of primary vaccination (2 injections or 3 doses of Oral Vaccine during year ended 31.12.62)					
-----	------------------------	---	--	--	--	--	--

Children born 1962		Children born 1943-61		Young persons born 1933-42		Persons under 40 yrs. & Priority Groups	
Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral
-	13	21	50	4	11	7	17

(2)	<u>Reinforcements, 1962</u>
-----	-----------------------------

Number of persons (all groups) who received a third reinforcing injection.	Number of children of 5 yrs.but under 12 yrs. who received a fourth reinforcing injection.	Number of persons (all groups) who received a reinforc- ing dose of Oral vaccine following two Salk injections.	Number of children of 5 yrs.but under 12 yrs. who received a dose of Oral vaccine after three Salk injections.
221	45	51	20

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the City in year ended 31.12.62.

Under 1 yr.		1 yr.		2 to 4 yrs.		5 to 14 yrs.		15 yrs. & over.		Total	
P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
68	-	16	-	53	8	280	140	419	557	836	725

P = Primary

R = Reinforcing

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Introduction

To the Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1962. From the environmental hygiene point of view the year has been uneventful, which, in itself, is a pointer to the success of the services provided.

The office of Public Health Inspector is combined with that of Building Inspector and Petroleum Officer, and the considerable and continued increase in the work connected with these two latter appointments has taken up time otherwise devoted to Public Health Work. Especially this has had its effect upon the routine work of Public Health, such as inspection and control of food hygiene in food establishments and routine housing inspections. In May the new Housing (Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Regulations 1962 came into force, and it will be necessary for a survey of such houses to take place. Also the Council brought into effect additions to the Building Byelaws connected with smoke prevention, necessitating increased duties and inspections to ensure compliance with these important provisions.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the General Purposes Committee and to the Medical Officer of Health for their continued help at all times.

H. C. Birch

Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLY

Quantity

The total daily consumption of water in the City was on average 286,000 gallons. This consumption represents 41 gallons per head per day.

Sources

(a) Public The main source of supply of the City water is from the Holes Ash and Vigo Spring areas on the southern slopes of the Mendip Hills and from two boreholes situated at the Athletic Ground. To supplement the supply the disused borehole at Rookham was brought into use during the year.

(b) Private There are also three private borehole supplies and the water supplied by these is mainly used for industrial purposes.

The Tudway Estates also have a private water supply which is piped to a small number of houses in the City and supplies the Cathedral Grammar School. This supply, derived from a spring on the Mendip Hills, is fed to a reservoir at Walcombe and thence for distribution. The supply is subject to occasional contamination and regular routine checks are made.

The results below were of samples of water taken for bacteriological and chemical examination from public and private supplies:-

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

RAW WATER				AFTER TREATMENT			
Bacteriological		Chemical		Bacteriological		Chemical	
Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
2	nil.	3	nil.	19	nil.	nil.	nil.

Chemical Examination

Details of typical results of chemical examinations were as follows:-

	Vigo Bore	Holes Ash Spring	Athletic Ground Bore
Physical Characters	Slightly turbid	Clear & bright	Clear & bright
Reaction	Very slightly alkaline pH 7.5	Very slightly alkaline pH 7.4	Very slightly alkaline pH 7.3
Total Solids	250.0	180.0	430.0
Alkalinity(as Ca Co ₃)	190.0	145.0	305.0
Total Hardness	190.0	150.0	345.0
(a) Permanent	nil.	nil.	40.0
(b) Temporary	190.0	150.0	305.0
Chloride (as Cl)	18.5	13.0	21.0
Ammonia	0.088	0.002	0.002
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.034	0.008	0.2
Nitrates	nil.	0.8	2.2
Nitrites	0.003	nil.	nil.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27° C	0.25	0.025	0.05
Free Carbon Dioxide	3.0	3.0	12.0
Sediment	Trace Brown	none	none
Iron	1.2	nil.	nil

All results in parts per million

Hardness

The water from the Vigo Bore is moderately hard, the hardness being entirely temporary. The water from Holes Ash Spring is a slightly hard water, the hardness also being temporary. The water from the Borehole (Athletic Ground) is very hard in character, mostly temporary.

Chemical Purity

Both the Holes Ash Spring and Borehole (Athletic Ground) provide water which is of satisfactory chemical purity. The water from the Vigo Bore contains an excessive amount of iron, for domestic purposes, and the figure for ammonia is rather high.

Piped Supplies

Most of the houses in the City have an internal piped supply. There are still a comparatively large number of houses, estimated at 170, which obtain their supplies from taps situated externally and usually at the rear of the premises. In many cases this supply point is shared by two or more houses. The majority of these houses are in the Council's Slum Clearance programme.

Rainfall

The rainfall figure for 1962 was 26.80 inches. Previous years rainfall figures were as follows:-

1957	31.15 inches
1958	34.92 inches
1959	28.47 inches
1960	40.76 inches
1961	29.89 inches

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Samples of water are taken from the open air Public Swimming Baths at Princes Road during the summer season. The samples are taken from the inlet or shallow end and from the outlet or deep end. Samples are also taken from the childrens Paddling Pool.

Water for the baths is taken from the mains supply and passes through a continuous pressure sand filter and is chlorinated. The turnover of the water in the baths takes place every four hours.

The daily average number of bathers during the season was 265.

Samples

Twelve samples were taken from the Swimming Pool and four samples from the Paddling Pool:-

	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Swimming Pool	12	nil.	nil.
Paddling Pool	3	nil.	1

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Methods of Disposal

Almost all the houses and premises in the City are served by main sewer.

There are approximately 40 houses using septic tank and soakaway systems or the conservancy system. Usually this is because they are not served by a sewer within a reasonable distance, or because adjacent sewers are not at suitable depths. They are, for the most part, isolated from the main urban area of the town, generally being situated at the boundaries of the district. They do not create a nuisance but due to the clayey nature of the subsoil of the district, there is a tendency for ponding to take place on the soakaway area, especially during periods of heavy rainfall and in the winter when loss from evaporation is at a minimum.

Sewer Extensions

Sewer extensions during the year were as follows:-

Council Extension

Bath Road	42 yds of 6" sewer
-----------	--------------------

Effluents

By arrangement with the Somerset County Public Analyst, monthly samples are taken by the Surveyor's Department for chemical analysis, and to ensure that the final discharge to the watercourse complies with the recommended limits.

Of the 12 samples taken 4 were satisfactory, 4 were slightly below recommended limits, whilst 4 were considered unsatisfactory.

A typical average report on a sample of the sewage effluent was:-

	Parts per million
Physical characters	Slightly turbid
Reaction	Very slightly alkaline
pH	7.5
Solids in suspension	22.0
Total alkalinity (as Ca Co ₃)	300.0
Chloride (as Cl)	44.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N)	8.8
Organic Nitrogen	2.2
Nitrate Nitrogen	9.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C.	7.0
Biochemical Oxygen demand in 5 days at 20° C.	18.0

This is an effluent of satisfactory quality, when judged on the recommended limits of 30 parts per million suspended solids and 20 parts per million biochemical oxygen demand for an effluent to be discharged to a clean river or stream where the dilution is not less than one in eight.

RIVER POLLUTION

Number of cases dealt with during the year - Nil.

REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly combined refuse and salvage collection is carried out in the City. Trade refuse is removed on payment.

Disposal of household and trade refuse is by semi controlled tipping on the sites adjacent to the Sewage Disposal Works and would be much improved if a full system of controlled tipping were adopted. The lack of covering material is the main reason which prevents this at present.

HOUSING

Housing Programme

During the year 28 Council Houses reached completion as shown in the table below. Of these 26 were on the Broad Close site whilst the remaining 2 were infilling at Burcott Road. At the end of the year no further houses were under construction, but a site was in preparation at Bath Road, designed for 41 dwellings, 15 of which are intended for slum clearance, and 26 intended to be let at economical rents for housing the employees of the Mendip Hospital.

	Houses erected		Houses in course of construction	
	Slum Clearance	Other Purposes	Slum Clearance	Other Purposes
Local Authority	13	15	Nil	Nil
Private Enterprise	Nil	60	Nil	40
Total	13	75	Nil	40

Type of Dwellings

The following types of dwellings were erected during the year:-

Local Authority

2 Bedroom 15
3 Bedroom 13
Total 28

Private Enterprise

2 Bedroom 24
3 Bedroom 34
4 Bedroom 2
Total 60

Houses erected in previous years were as follows:-

	<u>Local Authority</u>	<u>Private Enterprise</u>	<u>Total</u>
1957	23	38	61
1958	7	59	66
1959	11	57	68
1960	21	69	90
1961	Nil	82	82

Total number of post-war houses completed:-

By Local Authority	349
By Private Enterprise	<u>471</u>
Total	<u>820</u>

Houses sold No Council houses were sold during 1962.

OVERCROWDING

Two serious cases of overcrowding were reported in 1962. One of the cases was relieved by re-housing of one of the families from the house. The other case, that of a family of 5 living in one room, still remains to be dealt with.

In general the overcrowding position in the City is not serious, but the isolated cases when discovered are usually extremely severe. There is also a considerable number of Italian immigrants in the City who, due to high rents and inability to find suitable accommodation, will quickly cause overcrowding, and a careful watch is kept on the position.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council have always operated the two types of Grant Schemes. This year there has been a reduction in the number of applicants for both types of grants although there is still a steady demand. The schemes form a useful means of providing amenities cheaply in homes which are without any of the advantages of modern standards.

Applications from owner/occupiers again outweigh applications from landlords. There are still many old properties which are most suitable for modernisation by grant aid, and owners are always advised to take advantage of the grants where applicable. Routine housing inspections, together with technical advice would, I believe, be a considerable advance towards furthering interest in the grant schemes and would often result in giving a new lease of life to old houses and a better standard of housing for the occupants.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Number of applications and houses dealt with during the year:-

Approved		Refused	
<u>Applications</u>	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>Applications</u>	<u>No. of Premises</u>
9	12	1	1

Number of grants approved from owner/occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of applications approved from landlords	...	...	...	...	...	4
Average cost per dwelling approved	...	...	...	...	...	£548
Average amount of grant per dwelling	...	...	...	...	...	£274
Total amount of grant payments by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	£3289

The total number of applications approved since commencement of grant scheme in 1954 is 81.

STANDARD GRANTS

Number of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of applications from owner/occupier	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of applications from landlords	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of applications refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total amount of grants approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£810
Average cost per dwelling approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£115

Types of amenities provided:-

Baths	5
Washhand Basins	6
Hot Water Supplies	5
Water Closets (internal)	6
Food Stores	4
Total	<u>26</u>

The total number of applications approved since the commencement of the scheme in 1959 is 40.

SLUM CLEARANCE AND UNFIT HOUSES

Eight houses were purchased during the year, 5 in Southover for demolition and 3 in Union Street for improvement. All these houses were earmarked under the Slum Clearance Scheme.

By the end of the year the housing scheme in Broad Close was completed, some of these houses being intended to rehouse persons from sub-standard properties.

Undertakings not to let for human habitation were accepted in respect of 3 houses.

Houses Demolished

(a) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	Nil
(b) Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas and as a result of procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act 1957	1

Unfit Houses Closed

(a) Under Sections 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957	3
(b) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957	Nil
(c) By informal procedure	Nil

Unfit Houses made fit and in which defects were remedied

(a) After informal action by Local Authority	59
(b) After formal notice under Public Health or Housing Acts	8

Unfit Houses in Temporary Use

(Housing Act 1957)	3
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Purchase of Houses by Agreement

Houses in Clearance Areas purchased in the year	8
--	---

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...	51
Number of inspections for the purpose ...	59
Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading 1 (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 - 1932 ...	12
Number of inspections made for purpose ...	16
Number of houses in which no action was found necessary ..	17
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	17
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	41

Action under Statutory Powers

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act 1957 ...	Nil
Proceedings under Public Health Acts ...	Nil
Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957 ..	Nil

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

New legislation controlling houses in multiple occupation came into force by the Housing (Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Regulations 1962.

The type of house in which this problem may arise is the larger Victorian dwelling, now too big for the use of one family, and consequently let off into units. Such lettings can command high rents often unjustified by the amenities available.

Fortunately there are not many such houses in the City, and consequently the problem is not likely to be great. Nevertheless there are a number of houses which fall into the category. Three such houses were visited during 1962 and found to be wanting in amenities. To administer the Regulations it would be necessary to properly survey the district. Due to other duties intervening, it has not yet been possible systematically to inspect all the houses which come within the Regulations.

RENT ACT 1957

During the year one application for a Certificate of Disrepair was received and was issued.

FOOD INSPECTION

The quantity of food condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year amounted to 603 lbs.

Visits to food premises and warehouses resulted in the following quantities of food being disposed of as unfit for human consumption:-

	lbs	<u>Canned Goods</u>	lbs
Luncheon Meat	10	Corned Beef & Mutton	164
Prawns	11	Other Meats	58
Raisins	30	Ham	86
Coconut	4	Ox Tongue	6
Ox Tongue	4	Chicken	9
Brawn	3	Fish	17
Frozen Veal	52	Vegetables	27
Cereals	17	Fruit	45
Mackerel	56	Jams	4
	<u>187</u>		<u>416</u>

There were 7 occasions when food sold to the public was not of the nature substance or quality demanded. The items concerned were as follows:-

Dirty bread
Dead insect in loaf
Piece of hide in stewed steak
Maggots in dried fruit (2 occasions)
Mass of mould growth in sterilised milk
Mouldy steak and kidney pies

All these items were investigated fully and warnings issued to the traders or manufacturers.

ICE CREAM

Number of Premises Registered

(a)	For manufacture only	Nil
(b)	For retail only	21
(c)	For manufacture and retail	1

Sampling

The total number of samples of Ice Cream taken during the year was 21. All the samples taken were satisfactory and in the highest grade.

The results were as follows:-

		<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
Grade	1	11	10
Grade	11	-	-
Grade	111	-	-
Grade	1V	-	-
	Totals	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>

FOOD PREMISES

The total number of food businesses within the City is 148. These are of the following types:-

Butchers Shops	8	Grocers Shops	16
Chemists & Druggists	3	Cafes	9
Confectionery Shops	9	Licensed Premises	17
Greengrocers Shops	8	Snack Bars	2
Fish Shops	2	Bakehouses	4
Fish & Chip Shops	2	School Kitchens & Dining Centres	5
Sweet Shops	21	Hotels	8
General Shops	3	Guest Houses	20
Cold Stores	1	Food Manufacturing Premises	1
Mobile Shops	1	Cheese Stores	3
Canteens	5		

A total of 61 visits was paid to food premises in connection with work under the Council's Clean Food Byelaws and the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

Improvements Effected

Food Premises

Complete reconstruction	Nil
Extensions of inadequate premises	Nil
General sanitary conditions improved	8
Hot & Cold water supplied	2
Additional Water Closets provided	1
Sinks Provided	3
Repairs to Sanitary Accommodation	4
Washhand basins provided	1
Provision of first aid materials	2
Rooms redecorated	31
Rooms replastered	4
Clothes cupboards provided	1
Improved artificial lighting	7
Improved ventilation	3
New floors	3
New equipment provided	5

Hospitals

At the request of the North East Somerset Hospital Management Committee, all the hospitals in the City were inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The Priory Hospital kitchens were found to be quite unsuitable for their purpose and very much below a desirable standard. A full report was submitted to the Committee and it has been decided to provide new kitchens in other existing buildings, as reconstruction of the present kitchen would prove uneconomical.

MILK SUPPLIES

General

Total number of Dairy Farms	7
Total number of Retailers	5
Number of Producer/Retailers inc. in (b)	1
Number of licensed pasteurisation plants	1

All milk sold in the borough is either sterilised, pasteurised or tuberculin tested.

Licensing of dealers in milk is now a function of the County Council who are also responsible for routine milk sampling. Monthly reports are received from the County Council giving results of samples. The table below gives results of samples taken from retailers of milk in the City:-

Milk Sampling

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	-	-	-
Pasteurised	207	195	12
Sterilised	-	-	-
Totals	207	195	12

MEAT SUPERVISION

Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses in District 1
Number of Licensed Knackers Yards in District Nil

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned during the year:-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs
Number killed	101	8	247
Number inspected	101	8	247
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	22	Nil	12
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>			
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Weight of Meat Condemned (in lbs)</u>			
(a) Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Other Diseases	260	Nil	25

No pigs, cows or horses were killed in 1962

Disposal of Condemned Food

Disposal of condemned food is by burial at the Refuse Disposal Tip at Burcott Road, or by arrangement with knackers who operate a daily collection service from Bristol.

RODENT CONTROL

Sewer Maintenance Treatment

One sewer maintenance test treatment was undertaken during the year.

There are 110 manholes on the sewer system in the City. Test Treatment of 11 manholes at strategic points was undertaken and as the result was negative, further treatment was not necessary.

Surface Infestations

The year was free from serious rat infestation and this was no doubt due to the clear condition of the sewers.

Twenty-seven complaints of surface infestation were received and eighteen separate treatments were carried out by the rodent operative. Warfarin was used as the poison for most treatments but where this may not be swift enough, Zinc Phosphide is used.

Details are given below in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Others including Business Premises	Agric.	Total
Number of Properties in area	12	2102	701	26	2841
Number of Properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	-	19	8	-	27
(b) Survey	12	38	14	26	90
Infested Properties					
(a) Rats) Major	3	-	-	-	3
) Minor	-	13	7	-	20
(b) Mice) Major	-	-	-	-	-
) Minor	-	1	1	-	2

Notices served under the Act - Nil

FACTORIES

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 49.

The number of inspections was 57 and included at least one visit to each factory. An abstract of the results of these inspections in the form required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service is set out below:-

Administration of the Factories Act 1937

Part 1 of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	55	4	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals	49	57	4	-

Factories contd.

Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (4)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)			
(a) Insufficient	8	6	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	5	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	Nil
Totals	16	11	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

Glove making

Number of outworkers in August list
required by Section 10 (i) (c) 1

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

The Council this year adopted Byelaws under Section 24 of the Act, the purpose being to ensure that domestic appliances installed in new buildings are capable of burning smokeless fuels. There is no statutory obligation to use such fuels, until a smoke control area is created.

In consequence 94 new fireplaces in the area were installed with such appliances. The danger of air pollution by smoke is not an ever present problem, as in industrial areas, nevertheless the Byelaw ensures that as the town develops the emission of smoke from houses will not produce a smoke laden atmosphere. This foresight on the part of the Committee is to be commended.

Diseases of Animals

Waste Foods Order 1957

The County Council's functions under this Order are delegated to this Council.

There is one boiling plant and premises dealing with waste foods in the district and this was inspected on two occasions during the year to ensure that compliance with the Order was being observed. In both cases the premises were in a satisfactory condition and were reported upon as such to the County Council.

Pet Shops

There is one licensed pet shop in the borough and regular visits are made to ensure that the conditions of the licence are observed.

Dr. D. E. Clare
Medical Officer of Health

H. C. Birch
Public Health Inspector

